

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of binary image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data ~~[[i₀]]~~ with n bits;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell; and

obtaining corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data with a threshold value operation.

2 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises providing the low-pass filter with an asymmetrical distribution of filter coefficients with respect to the filter window.

3 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window.

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4 (original): The method according to claim 2, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

5 (original): The method according to claim 3, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

6 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

7 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

8 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

carrying out the threshold value operation with threshold values selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude; and

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storing the threshold values in a threshold value table.

9 (original): The method according to claim 6, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

10 (original): The method according to claim 7, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

11 (original): The method according to claim 8, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

12 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises obtaining corrected binary image data from the corrected quantized image data by quantization with 1 bit.

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13 (original): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.

14 (currently amended): A method for gray value correction of screened image data with a local grey value by a desired correction magnitude, which comprises:

quantizing the binary image data ~~[[is]]~~ with n bits;

filtering the quantized image data with a low-pass filter having a filter window smaller than a screen cell; and

performing a threshold value operation to obtain corrected quantized image data from the filtered image data.

15 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises asymmetrically distributing the filter coefficients of the low-pass filter with respect to the filter window.

16 (original): The method according to claim 15, which further comprises obtaining the asymmetrical distribution of the filter coefficients from a symmetrical filter by shifting a filter function by fractions of an image point.

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17 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises carrying out the threshold value operation with a threshold value selected as a function of the local gray value and of the desired correction magnitude.

18 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises storing threshold values in a threshold value table.

19 (original): The method according to claim 17, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

20 (original): The method according to claim 18, which further comprises determining a threshold value function $T1 = f1(G, dG)$ empirically based upon model screen dots and obtaining a threshold value function $T2 = f2(G, dG)$ therefrom with approximation functions.

21 (original): The method according to claim 14, which further comprises quantizing the corrected quantized image data with 1 bit to obtain corrected binary image data.